

This is supposed to be a free country, subject to the general rule of free competition. Of course there are incursions on free competition where public policy creates a compelling reason, such as copyright law, patent law, and certain measures implemented by the FCC in the past, for example. But the effort here of the NAB to stifle another outlet for traffic news and weather seems to fall short of a compelling reason. In my view, the NAB could be seen as part of the problem we have today of an AM and FM radio wasteland. On XM, you can get the traffic and weather when you want it, not subject to some moronic shock jock on the morning drive time show. That ability may even promote safety on our highways at least during drive time where tempers run hot and traffic jams could be reduced perhaps if people had more information about alternative routes to take, and had that information in *real time.*

Monty Python said in Life of Brian, "Blessed is just about anybody with a vested interest in the status quo", but I don't think the NAB's petition should be blessed here.

Thank you. Jim Ewing.